

Dear Sirs,

The FCC must limit concentrated ownership of media venues; particularly media conveying news. At present, too many media venues are owned by too few companies.

The adverse impact of concentrated ownership in mass media is much greater than in other industries. Media access is directly related to issues of free speech. Unbiased news reporting is essential for maintaining an informed public; essential for our democracy to function properly.

Potential for abuse created by concentrated media ownership is great. Concentrated ownership directly implies concentrated control. Problems with censorship and biased reporting are worsened under concentrated ownership. Rupert Murdoch and the News Corporation are already unabashedly editorializing their news broadcasts, and skewing their reports. Other news venues show similar patterns.

Powerful financial incentives are already at work which tend to corrupt news media. There is a pronounced tendency to turn news broadcasting venues into profit centers based on their ability to entertain the public. Truth suffers as a result. Again, these problems are worsened by concentrated ownership..

The FCC must limit concentrated ownership of media venues. An educated and correctly informed public is essential for our democratic process to function in a healthy manner. The public is best informed by receiving information from a large number of independent sources that can be compared and contrasted with each other.

Concentrated media ownership works against our democracy. The FCC must limit concentrated ownership of media venues.

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